

From: John F. Koen
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/20/01 11:30pm
Subject: proposed settlement

Hi, I wanted to comment on the settlement Microsoft proposed today (or yesterday). I am against this latest proposed settlement. I think that having the only penalty be Microsoft's providing computers and software will only go further toward reinforcing Microsoft's monopoly position, clearly against the intent of the law and the finding of guilt. Microsoft (as have other computer/software companies) has previously donated equipment and software to schools. This can serve several purposes such as good public relations, favorable media coverage (Microsoft has done it during previous trials, apparently to help sway the 'court of public opinion') and increasing 'market share.'

Allowing this 'settlement' only reinforces the problem.

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